

REMARKS

The present reply is being filed with a one-month extension request under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing the reply. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required to deposit account No. 19-5113.

Claims 1-9 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 5 are amended. Claims 10-14 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant notes, with thanks, the indication that claims 1-9 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Since claims 1 and 5 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner, claims 1-9 are now in immediate condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 10-14 under 35 USC §102(b) and 35 USC §103(a). However, claims 10-14 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer in order to narrow the issues and expedite the prosecution of the present application. The rejections are thus moot. The Applicant is considering the filing of a Continuation application.

As requested, a new combined declaration is provided. This new declaration now identifies the filing date of the present application with the proper format.

Please note that an Information Disclosure Statement is being filed simultaneously with the present reply.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Appl. No. 10/798,326

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Date: November 22, 2006

By: /Nicolas Pellemans/
Nicolas PELLEMANS, Reg. No. 38,797
Agent of record
Tel: (514) 847-4639
1981 McGill College, Suite 1600
Montréal (Québec) Canada, H3A 2Y3

Encl.